

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined (“ ”) being added and the language that contains strikethrough (“~~—~~”) being deleted:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for changing address information utilized by a fibre channel controller, the fibre channel controller being associated with a port of a network device, the method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

facilitating utilization of current address settings of a fibre channel controller for the network device;

receiving, from an operator, information corresponding to desired address settings of the network device;

storing the information corresponding to the desired address settings of the network device; and

replacing the current address settings with the stored, desired address settings of the network device.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ replacing the current address settings comprises ~~the step of:~~

determining whether to replace the current address settings with the stored, desired address settings upon reinitialization of the fibre channel controller.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ replacing the current address settings comprises ~~the step of~~:

replacing the current address settings with the stored, desired address settings while the fibre channel controller is connected to a fabric topology.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ replacing the current address settings comprises ~~the step of~~:

replacing the current address settings with the stored, desired address settings while the fibre channel controller is not connected to a fibre channel topology.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~the step of~~ determining whether to replace the current address settings comprises ~~the step of~~:

determining whether to replace the current address settings with the stored, desired address settings upon an operator initiated reset of the fibre channel controller.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein ~~the step of~~ determining whether to replace the current address settings comprises ~~the step of~~:

determining whether to replace the current address settings with the stored, desired address settings upon a next power cycle of the fibre channel controller.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for changing address information utilized by a fibre channel controller, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

enabling current address information corresponding to an address of the fibre channel controller to be provided to an operator;

enabling address setting information corresponding to address settings of the fibre channel controller to be provided to the operator;

enabling the operator to change the address settings of the fibre channel controller by providing information corresponding to the address settings to the fibre channel controller;

and

enabling the operator to change the current address of the fibre channel controller in response to the change of the address settings.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~the step of~~ enabling the operator to change the current address of the fibre channel controller comprises ~~the step of~~:

determining whether to replace the current address with the address settings upon reinitialization of the fibre channel controller.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~the step of~~ enabling the operator to change the current address of the fibre channel controller comprises ~~the step of~~:

replacing the current address with the address settings while the fibre channel controller is connected to a fabric topology.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~the step of~~ enabling the operator to change the current address of the fibre channel controller comprises ~~the step of~~:

replacing the current address with the address settings while the fibre channel controller is not connected to a fibre channel topology.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein ~~the step of enabling the~~ operator to change the current address of the fibre channel controller comprises ~~the step of:~~

determining whether to replace the current address with the address settings upon an operator initiated reset of the fibre channel controller.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein ~~the step of enabling the~~ operator to change the current address of the fibre channel controller comprises ~~the step of:~~

determining whether to replace the current address with the address settings upon a next power cycle of the fibre channel controller.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for changing address information utilized by a network device, said system comprising:

a control system configured to receive information corresponding to desired address settings of the network device from an operator, store information corresponding to the desired address settings of the network device, and replace the current address settings with the desired address settings of the network device such that a communications port associated with the network device may be recognized by the network as being associated with the current address.

14. (Original) The system of claim 13, further comprising:
a communications port configured to enable communication of the network device with other devices of a network, said communications port being associated with the current address of the network device.
15. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein said control system comprises:
means for receiving information corresponding to desired address settings of the network device;
means for storing information corresponding to the desired address settings of the network device; and
means for replacing the current address settings with the desired address settings of the network device.
16. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein said control system is implemented via a fibre channel controller, said fibre channel controller communicating with said communications port.
17. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein said control system is configured to provide a graphical user interface suitable for display to an operator, said graphical user interface being configured to enable receipt of information corresponding to the desired address settings of the network device.

18. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein said fibre channel controller is configured to provide an operator with an indication that the current address settings are to be replaced with the address settings even though the fibre channel controller is not presently connected to a fibre channel topology.

19. (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein said fibre channel controller comprises:
a computer readable medium having a computer program for changing address information of the network device, said computer readable medium including logic configured to enable current address information corresponding to an address of the fibre channel controller to be provided to an operator, logic configured to enable address setting information corresponding to address settings of the fibre channel controller to be provided to the operator, logic configured to enable the operator to change the address settings of the fibre channel controller, and logic configured to enable the operator to change the current address of the fibre channel controller in response to the change of the address settings.

20. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein said fibre channel controller is configured to provide a graphical user interface suitable for display to an operator, said graphical user interface being configured to provide the operator with said indication that the current address settings are to be replaced with the address settings even though the fibre channel controller is not presently connected to a fibre channel topology.

21. (New) The method of claim 4, wherein, in replacing the current address settings while the fibre channel controller is not connected to a fibre channel topology, a failure is not indicated to the operator.